

Healthy
Sustainable
Susquehanna
Communities

eConnections

November



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Giving Thanks for Good Deeds

As we reflect on 2013 and all that we have to be grateful for, we want to give special thanks to our steadfast partners, dedicated community leaders, energetic volunteers, tireless advocates, members and donors up and down the Susquehanna Greenway.

Our vision for the Susquehanna Greenway is a connected landscape of revitalized river towns, parks, walking and biking trails, river access and conserved lands stretching 500-miles along the Susquehanna River, that will improve the quality of life of the people that live near it and enhance the economic vitality of the communities that foster it.

This is a big vision, and it is only possible because of the good deeds of many people that are working together to build the Greenway, one community trail, river access, and park project at a time.

We'd like to thank our friends and members who stood with us to urge their legislators to support a comprehensive Transportation Funding Bill for Pennsylvania - *the first of its kind* to have a designated source of funding for creating safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities!

We'll be thanking our supportive legislators through letters, and hope you'll also consider sending them a quick note of thanks, too! Find out how your legislators voted in the [House](#) and [Senate](#), and [contact them here](#). We'd specifically like to thank Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati (R-25), Senate Majority Leader Dominic Pileggi (R-9) and Senate Transportation Committee John Rafferty (R-44), our governor, and the Keystone Transportation Funding Coalition for the important roles they played in making this historic multi-modal funding a reality!

Meet Our Volunteer: Angela Miller

Build the Greenway: Become A Member!

Susquehanna Greenway Partnership



[Our Website](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[Contact Us](#)



Your gift will help us protect the natural and cultural resources of the Susquehanna, revitalize river communities and build connected parks, trails, and public river access points.



Our Mission

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership is a leading champion for the Susquehanna River Watershed, Pennsylvania's most important natural resource and the largest tributary to the Chesapeake Bay. We work to advance for public and private efforts to connect people with our natural and cultural resources, and promote a sustainable and healthy environment.



Thank you and Happy Thanksgiving!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Trish Carothers".

Trish Carothers, Executive Director
Susquehanna Greenway Partnership

River of The Year: West Branch is Finalist! Your Vote Needed



It's going to be a BIG year for the West Branch and we need your help to make it even BIGGER!

We are thrilled to announce that the West Branch is a finalist for the PA River of the Year. Cast your [VOTE HERE](#) for the West Branch of the Susquehanna River by **December 27, 2013** and don't

forget to share with your friends by forwarding this email or sharing the story posted on our [Susquehanna Greenway Facebook page](#). Thanks!

Dine Out for the Susquehanna Greenway

Join us for dinner or drinks at [The Rockville Room](#) in Harrisburg on **Friday, December 6, 2013**. The restaurant will donate a portion of the evening's sales to benefit the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership and our mission to create 500 miles of connected parks, trails, river access, and river communities!



Enjoy great food, full bar, live piano, images from our photo contest, free raffle items (restaurant gift cards, framed river photo and more!), and chat about Greenway projects with our Board Members and staff! All attendees receive a FREE Susquehanna Greenway glass, and your first drink is courtesy of The Rockville Room. Hope to see you there! RSVP Erin Pierce at

Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in helping with a local Greenway project, or would like to assist us with an event, photography, office work, etc. visit our website and [click on volunteer](#).

epierce@susquehannagreenway.org or 570-522-7244. Learn more [here](#).

Upcoming Events

To see more events, or to have an event listed, please visit our [Calendar of Events](#).

[Walkfest](#)

Hershey
Nov. 29-30

[Festival of Trees](#)

Harrisburg
Nov. 30 - Dec. 1

[Community Market](#)

Bloomsburg
Nov. 30

[Historic Walking Tour](#)

Marietta
Dec. 1

[Tree Lighting](#)

Lewisburg
Dec. 5

[Mansion Tours](#)

Berwick
Dec. 6 - 7

[Tree Lighting](#)

Lock Haven
Dec. 6

[Dine-Out For The Greenway](#)

Harrisburg
Dec. 6

[Haven Holidays](#)

Lock Haven
Dec. 7

[Community Market](#)

Bloomsburg
Dec. 7

Where Is River Access Needed? Map Your Wish List!

Tis almost the season for making lists, and why not start with the Susquehanna River? Where do you think we need boat ramps or fishing piers? Places to swim, or bird watch?



The National Park Service and a team of local and state government partners welcome your suggestions for new public access to the Chesapeake Bay and to the rivers. NPS developed a web-based tool so you can share your ideas on an interactive map. The mapping tool will be available for use November 1, 2013 through **December 1, 2013**. [Access the map here](#). Please share with interested friends - the more input, the merrier!

Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grant: Riverside Park Sees Upgrades

Each month learn about a local project being funded through the Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grant Program that is helping to build the Greenway and connect people to the Susquehanna River. The program is funded in part by the PA Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources.



Hugging the West Branch Susquehanna River and tucked under soaring mature trees, Irvin Park in Curwensville, PA is a scenic and peaceful place to visit in Clearfield County. Park visitors can now enjoy river views from five new benches and seven new tables thanks to some much needed upgrades to Irvin Park. Established in 1922 from a piece of land donated by the Irvin Family, Irvin Park is a local destination for family reunions, celebrations, and summertime fun along the river.

According to Autumn Norris, Curwensville Borough Secretary and lifelong resident of Curwensville, "People come back to use the park year after year." The park currently boasts five pavilions, walking paths and access to the river. Norris noted that in 1996, new playground equipment was installed in the park and the borough is currently thinking about adding more pavilions to meet the increasing demand for park facilities. The Irvin Park Enhancement project was coordinated by Mary Ellen Read and was funded through the Community Conservation Partnerships Program, Environmental

[Waterfowl Walk](#)

Danville
Dec. 7

[Jingle Bell Run/Walk](#)

York
Dec. 8

[Historic House Tours](#)

Harrisburg
Dec. 8

[Funding Walkable Communities](#)

Webinar - Online
Dec. 9

[West Branch Restoration Meeting](#)

Lock Haven
Dec. 10

To see more events, or to have an event listed, please visit our [Calendar of Events](#).

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors



Stewardship Fund, under the administration of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Project funding was awarded through the Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grant program. Consider visiting the park and its new amenities before the winter weather sets in!

Photo of Irvin Park by David Rose, 3rd annual Photo Contest

Photo Contest Featured Category: Youth Category

We host the annual [Susquehanna Greenway Photo Contest](#) to inspire everyone to get outside, get active, and explore our many special places along the Susquehanna. Contest closes February 1, 2013.



We've teamed up with [Hershey's Track and Field Games](#) to invite kids under the age of 18 to get outside, explore, and snap photos of what they treasure along the Greenway!

Kids, show us your favorite parks, trails, outdoor activities, or scenes of your town!



Kids can submit their stories and digital images [here](#). Parents are asked to complete a brief permission form.

Contest Gallery: See last year's images at The Rockville Room, 4425 N Front St, Harrisburg during December!

To learn about becoming a photo contest sponsor, contact [Bridget](#). To request printed contest information, contact [Erin](#).

Photos (Top to Bottom): Barn in Susquehanna County by Carissa Phillips, Age 17; Buttermilk Falls in Wyoming County by Izaiah Calpin, Age 14



News from the North:

David Buck Honored

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council recently awarded the Nineteenth Annual Thomas P. Shelburne Environmental Leadership Award to David A. Buck, our greenway partner with the Endless Mountains Heritage Region! As Greenway Coordinator and Water Trail guru, David tirelessly works to develop the water trail and Susquehanna Greenway with the heritage region in Susquehanna, Bradford, and Wyoming counties. David was honored for his dedication, leadership and commitment to preserving and protecting the environment of Northeastern Pennsylvania. For over forty years he has been engaged in many community activities with missions to protect and improve the quality of life in our communities and the natural environment. Mr. Buck is a leader in the environmental arena through creating partnerships that have improved the natural, recreational and cultural landscape of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Congrats Dave! Watch WNEP's feature video [here](#).



News from the West:

River Access Opens!

The Bureau of Forestry recently completed construction of a canoe/kayak launch to the West Branch Susquehanna River at Baker Run in Clinton County. This site, managed as part of the Sproul State Forest, has been six years in the making through a partnership with the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy. Once a 21-mile stretch of unaccessible river, residents and visitors can take shorter day trips along this section of the water trail. The launch site is open now, and ready for your next adventure! Read more about the Baker Run Launch [here](#).

Middle Susquehanna News:

How is Your Commute?

People who live, work or travel within Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties are invited to take part in an online survey that will help shape the future of transportation planning in the region. "It helps put our limited transportation resources where they're needed," Tri-County Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Tim Reardon said. "Whether people are traveling by car, bus, bicycle, train





[Bitting Recreation, Inc.](#)

[CNB Bank](#)

[Jersey Shore Area
Lioness Club](#)

[Jersey Shore Moose
Lodge #214](#)

[Lycoming Mall](#)

[Lundy Warehousing](#)

[Norcen Industries, Inc.](#)

or foot, it's important to have an accurate picture of how we're getting around."

Tri-County Regional Planning Commission has launched a new website, myPAcommute.org, to gather information on the trips people are taking. Visitors will be asked to describe where they go and what type of transportation they use during a normal work day. The survey is anonymous and a great way to advocate for better bike/pedestrian/trail facilities! [Take the survey here.](#)



Lower Susquehanna News: Rail Trail for Lancaster County

Having just opened to the public at the end of the summer, the Enola Low Grade rail trail is already booming with popularity! Located along the Susquehanna River in

Manor Township, Lancaster County, the trail runs almost 6 miles along the abandoned rail line from Turkey Hill to Safe Harbor Dam. The 12-foot-wide crushed limestone trail is open to walkers, joggers and bicyclists. Our greenway friends report that Bald Eagles have been a common sight along the trail! Have you visited the Enola Low Grade trail? [Share your photos and stories.](#)

A project of the [Susquehanna Riverlands Conservation Landscape Initiative](#) (CLI), the trail was funded by a grant from the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, a donation from Norfolk Southern and tipping fees from the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority. Read more and see a map [here.](#)

Photo courtesy of Manor Township.

Susquehanna River Towns Workshop

This past September the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership and Bloomsburg University hosted the [Susquehanna River Towns Workshop: Creating Greener, More Flood Resilient Communities.](#)

Over **150** officials, commissioners, municipal managers, design professionals and residents joined with us to learn why the Susquehanna River is one of the most flood prone rivers in the country and why we are experiencing more frequent and severe flooding. Experts discussed using green infrastructure and floodplain ordinances to help control flooding and beautify communities. Different funding opportunities were highlighted. You can [access the presentations here](#) and visit our [Greenway Project Funding webpage.](#)

[Oakes Insurance, Inc.](#)

South Avis Realty

[Wegmans](#)

[Woodlands Bank](#)

Researchers Along The River: Students To Study Susquehanna

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that Harrisburg's Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is the recipient of a \$205,305 environmental education grant. The funding will be used to train middle and high school science teachers in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed to conduct hands-on scientific investigations with their students in the Susquehanna River, the bay's largest river. The Susquehanna River provides nearly 50 percent of the fresh water coming into the bay. Read more, or get involved [here](#).



River Reads: *Susquehanna Water Trail Maps*

We've featured novels, poetry, fiction, and non-fiction publications related to the Susquehanna in this standing article. (See all our [River Read Recommendations here](#).) With the gift-giving season quickly approaching, we've decided to highlight one of our favorite river reads: Susquehanna River Water Trail Maps. Perfect for the fisherman, boater, paddler, river town explorer, historian, or avid map-lover in your life, each of these maps illustrates a different geographic section of the water trail. Purchase a map from a local retailer or outfitter near you!

[North Branch Water Trail Map & Guide](#)

[West Branch Water Trail Map & Guide](#)

[Middle Section Water Trail Map & Guide](#)

[Lower Section Water Trail Map & Guide](#)



Meet Our Board: Bob Rolley



As a teenager, Bob spent many summers exploring the West Branch of the Susquehanna River with family in their motorboat and later found that the River played an important role in his life and work. Over the course of a 20-year career with the Williamsport Sun-Gazette, Bob covered many issues and events along the river, notably construction and launching of the Hiawatha Paddleboat, removal of old logging cribs from the river and reuse of those historic logs, and recreational boating on the waterway. Bob currently resides just outside of Lock Haven with his wife, Pamela, and is the publisher for The Express community newspaper. After moving to Clinton County, Bob joined the Woodward Township Recreation Committee and in this capacity helped the township and other recreation volunteers to build Riverview Park and to host an annual three-day festival to celebrate the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. That fundraiser is now in its 18th year. Bob is still boating on the river. He is passionate about connecting others to the waterway he loves and is excited to be a part of stewardship projects in the Susquehanna Greenway. Welcome Bob!

Meet Our Volunteer: Angela Miller

This month we welcome Angela to our team! A recent graduate Geoenvironmental graduate of Shippensburg University, Angela brings her passion for natural resources to SGP where she assists staff and our partner organizations with mapping different projects within the Susquehanna Greenway. Julia will soon be assisting our River Town Coordinator with asset mapping in different Susquehanna Greenway River Town communities. Before joining us in the office, Angela was a River Runner summer intern with our partners, the Susquehanna River Trail Association, where she practiced and encouraged stewardship of many public island campsites! Read about her summer adventures in our [August 2013 eConnections Newsletter](#). Thank you for volunteering Angela!



Build the Greenway: Become A Member!



Creating over 500 miles of connected parks, trails, conserved areas, and revitalized river towns is no small task and we cannot do it without local partners and contributions from people like you who care about the future of the Susquehanna Greenway!

We hope you will consider [making a tax-deductible donation](#) to show your appreciation for PA's most important natural asset. Your contributions help us to be a stronger champion for the River, create an environment that is attractive to business, advocate for protection of our water, farmlands, and forests. [Click here](#) to become a member of the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership. Thank you!

Banner photos (L to R): Mural in Williamsport by Swati Verma; Cornfield in Dauphin County by Lindsey Shoop; Foliage in Columbia County by Mike Philippe; Wildwood Park clean-up by Diane Peresie.

Visit us at www.susquehannagreenway.org